



Welcome to JOHN

This issue marks the begining of the fourth year of the JOHN publication. It has has been fun to highlight stories of human interest and to recognize the accomplishments of so many people that probably do not start out to get noticed by their results. I feel honored to tell a good story, that othewise may not be told.

The stories of Sallie Holley and John Hazeltine feature two individuals that helped this country move forward. For Sallie, it was a lifetime dedicated to those who in her lifetime had very little opportunity to be treated with kindness and be given an opportunity to be educated just like everyone else. For John, who at times appeared to be just looking out for his own interests was really helping a whole lot of people become established in many towns in the New England area in a most critical time in our Nation's development. Their names do not readily appear in any history books, but many times they stood next to people whose names most of us easily recall. Ethan Allen and Frederick Douglass just to name a couple.

Telling the Tohill Family story was an overwhelming task. Those of you who are into Ancestery discovery know that these family stories can fill many, many pages. For the most part, each family member has a story to tell. The Tohills (all of them) certaintly were valued members of their community. After many pleasant hours of following the Tohill family history, the three families selected are just a small part of this common yet special family.

On page 18 is a section from the THE WORCESTER SOCIETY OF ANTIQUITY proceedings that reveal just how hard it was for women to take part in many activities in Amercia in the 1800s.

I have on occasion been asked to provide back issues. I do archive all the issues. I use the Internet service, *archive.org* to upload all the issues. This makes all the issues available at anytime, with no cost to you. I have included directions on how to get to all the JOHN issues. It is not a tricky process, so give it a try if you are interested. JAH

Sallie Holley and the Anti-Slavery Women

Before 1833 the anti-slavery movement in America was largely unorganised. In 1831 William Lloyd Garrison of Massachusetts founded the newspaper "The Liberator" and in the following year he set up the New England Anti-Slavery Society. In 1833 he joined with Arthur and Lewis Tappan of New York in forming the American Anti-Slavery Society. Based in New York City, it made rapid progress and within five years had 1350 local chapters and about 250,000 members. These years saw an enormous output of pamphlets, tracts, newspapers and abolition petitions. In 1839, however, the Society split. Garrison and his followers antagonized more moderate members by criticizing churches, opposing political action, denouncing the Constitution as supportive of slavery, and by urging that women hold office within the Society. When the World's Anti-Slavery Convention met in London June 12, 1840 it denied women their seats, it was Wendell Phillips who rose to defend their rights upon the floor of the convention. "Now Wendell," said his wife, Helen as they went in, laying her hand upon his shoulder like a knighting sword, "Now, Wendell, don't shillyshally, but be brave as a lion"; and he was so, and those who would have shamed their sister were themselves made grievously ashamed. Most of us can recall the women whose influence in the anti-slavery conflict was supreme: Lucretia Mott, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Lydia Maria Child, Lucy Stone, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. In the annuals of Abolitionist and Suffragist, all these women seem to stand out. They were not alone in the efforts. Many other women took up the challenge to end slavery and fight for Women's rights. Each one of the following have a story to tell: Helen Benson Garrison, Sarah and Anna Benson, Abigail Folsom, Maria Weston Chapman, Abby Hutchinson, Abby Kelley, Mary Grew, Sarah Pugh, Margaret Burleigh, Sarah and Angelina Grimk'e, Caroline Putman and Sallie Holley, so which story to tell? It is one who took an honorable rank in this company of anti-slavery women. She was not one of the greatest of them, nor one of the least. She had her own place and work, and filled the one and did the other with a brave and earnest heart. I wish that I could draw upon all the rich memories of all that knew her for the story I have to tell, the story of Sallie Holley's useful and devoted life.

SALLIE HOLLEY, so she preferred to write her name was born in Canandaigua, New York, February 17, 1818.

She was the fifth child of her parents and her name was one doubly sacred to her father's heart, because it was at once of his high-souled

mother and his beautiful wife. Sallie's birth was the first anniversary celebration of a day forever memorable in her father's life. February 17, 1817, was the day on which he presented his first report as Canal Commissioner. When the work was completed in 1825 she had a lively sense that it was preeminently her father's work, and the booming of the cannon which signalied "the wedding of the waters" lingered pleasantly in her memory ever afterwards.

Sallie was interested in education and reading from a young age. In



1831 she attended boarding school in Lyons, NY where she attended her first anti-slavery lecture. The question of anti-slavery was already in her exposure, growing up Sallie was heavily influenced by the antislavery beliefs of her father, Myron Holley, who was also a strong advocate of religious liberalism. Primarily, he served as the orginial founder of the Liberty Party, which was the first political party to make anti-slavery a political issue. Sallie always attributed her anti-slavery values to his teachings. Myron was late to the game, so to speak. He did not become actively involved until the late 1830s. The Liberty Party wad the first US party with an organized abolitionist group at its core. Mr. Holley's efforts were short lived, he died, barely solvent in 1841.

The death of Myron Holley made the conduct of her own life a more serious question than it had been before. What should she do with herself; with her gifts, such as they were? The first possibility was teaching school in Rochester, in spite of the school-board's readiness to do anything for her that she might ask: she chose the humblest and the most ardous position -- a primary school consisting of some sixty little

Irish girls. But she felt that her preparation for such work was miserably inadequate. Meantime her brother and sister-in-law begged her to make her home with them, but such dependence was not to her mind. To "go as a nurse-girl to Cincinnati" seemed a preferable alternative. "No," said Frederick W. Holland, minister of the Rochester Unitarian Church; "go to Oberlin." Mr. Holland backed up his advice with a gift of forty dollars, and there was a scholarship established by her friend Mr. S. D. Porter, one of the Oberlin trustees. So she set out for Oberlin leaving all the pleasant people and the good times that could not be given up without a pang. Sallie Holley set out for Oberlin from her brother's house in Monroe, Michigan, in the depth of winter 1847. Taking the stage-sleigh for Cleveland, she made sure that her green barege veil hid a tear-stained face much of the way as she went doubtfully and yet resolvedly on a journey that was then a tedious one. Her brother had begged her not to expose herself to the insult sure to follow her going to the school that freely accepted students of color. It was, apparently, the fact that Oberlin opened its doors to women that attracted Sallie Holley, and not its antislavery character, though this was much in harmony with her Liberty party antecedents. Oberlin did much for Sallie Holley in many ways, but she had special courses, not published in the catalogue, that were of more importance than any of her regular studies. All the time she was breathing the air of anti-slavery reform, and as time went on she found herself upon a wave that carried her into the thick of the battle.

Oberlin College in Ohio was founded in 1833. From the outset it was a major focus of the abolitionist movement, especially after a group of about 50 students from Lane Theological Seminary joined it on condition that in future students would be accepted regardless of color.

In 1835 it began to admit African-American students and in 1837 it became one of the first colleges to admit women as undergraduates. It was later an active terminus for the 'underground railroad', the network of secret routes and safe houses by which slaves escaped from the southern states.

It was at Oberlin that Sallie met soon to be her life long companion, Caroline Putnam. Caroline writes, "But the momentous, the decisive convention of our lives, was in the summer (after the drive to Akron), at Litchfield, Ohio, twenty miles from Oberlin, a fanatical, heretical, infidel assembly gathered through the inspiration and welcome of Josephine Griffing, a wonderful women both in the Woman Suffrage movement and in the Freedman's Bureau, of which Garrison hailed her the true founder." "Among the speakers at this meeting was Abby Kelley Foster, who made an eloquent appeal in behalf of the slave-woman and asked: "Who in this great assembly is willing to plead her cause?"

"At the close of her address, and in the recess of the meeting, Miss Holley advanced to say 'I will plead the cause of the slave-woman.' Mrs Foster welcomed her with warmth and gratitude and begged Miss Holley to join her instantly in that Ohio campaign; to which Miss Holley replied, that she had another year to study at Oberlin to complete her course, but as soon as she should graduate she would join her. Mrs. Foster said, "I look upon you as a bundle of enthusiasms." From that day all her plans were made with reference to its fulfulment. 'Putty, (Sallie's nickname for Caroline Putnam) I've decided to be an anti-slavery lecturer!' As her last year in Oberlin drew to its close, Frederick Douglass wrote asking her to engage in behalf of his paper, the *North Star.* She declined because of her promise to Abby Kelley, becoming faithful to the Anti-Slavery Society for a service of ten years. The first duty assigned to her was to join the Ohio campaign. Miss Putnam's account of the work and workers of those days is too good not to be recalled.

"It was in the days of outlawry for anti-slavery, and rarely could the meetings, as we travelled from place to place, find any church, hall or schoolhouse open to them. But some grove would serve, and in one instance a little shoemaker's shop, which was quite at our service, the man taking off his apron, shoving back his bench, and asking us in. Soon the people on the street, passing his door, stopped, to listen to the voice of the young lady pleading so earnestly for the slave-woman; her beautiful face full of warm human sympathy of her plea."



It is with great satisfaction that I find that Sallie Holley's letters speak for her. Here are just a few that antedate her connection with the Anti-Slavery Society, and as brief as they are in this issue, hopefully they will illustrate the spirit in which Sallie entered on a work that was to end only with her life:

Sallie Holley about 1852

ABINGTON, Aug. 26, 1852.

"You see how I flit from place to place. An antislavery lecturer's life has something apostolic in it, if it only be in going from town to town to preach the everlasting gospel. To-day I was entertaining myself making out a memorandum of all the places and times I had lectured. I made out one hundred and fifty-six times".

TO MISS PUTNAM.

" MELLICO HILL, N. J., Dec. 5th, 1852."

I have just returned from Woodston, a nine miles' ride from this place, where I had an overflowing house, great numbers having to stand. All listened with absorbed interest. I cannot but feel good was accomplished. The collection was \$12. 24.

LYONS, Jan. 12, 1854.

"The people have expressed themselves surprised and delighted with my lecture of Wednesday evening. An audience of nearly six hundred. As I usually do, I felt anxious before the lecture".

"This apprehensive state of mind which almost always attacks me just before the lecture, is a great plague, a devil that I long to cast out, but as yet have not the power. 'I believe it is one of the kind that goeth not out except by prayer and fasting.' To a person full of composure and Christian sympathy, the perplexity I suffer about accepting or declining the invitation to Albany would be astonishing. Last evening I was asked if I would actually associate with blacks. When I said that I had done it for years, the astonishment was extreme".

"Oh, this anti-slavery movement is revealing the spirit of Christianity with new power! "

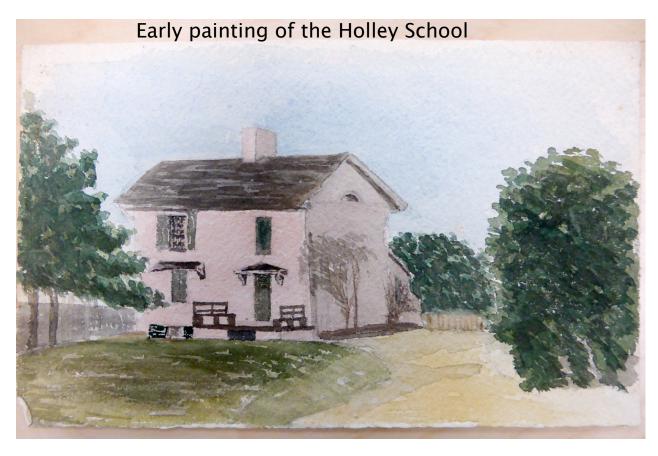
Sallie Holley & Caroline Putnam The Holley School Lottsburg, Virginia

When the struggle to preserve the American Anti-Slavery Society

was finally lost, in 1870, Sallie undertook the battle that would last until her death. Two years earlier, in 1868, her beloved Caroline had moved to Lottsburg, Virginia and started a school for the freed slaves in the area. Sallie joined Caroline Putnam there in 1870, at the age of 52. Through the coming decades they lived at the Holly School, as



Caroline named it, leaving one at a time for an annual trip North to beg funds and supplies from friends and old movement comrades. They worked unrelentingly, growing much of their food in a massive garden and steadily improving the facilities for their students, and did so under a near-total boycott of any communication by their white neighbors.



Sallie Holley's Obituary

Miss Sallie Holley, one of the foremost workers against slavery and a lifelong friend of the colored race, died at Miller's Hotel, 26th St, near 6th Avenue, last evening. She was the daughter of Myron Holley, who was well known as a reformer over 50 years ago and a prominent member of the Liberty Party.

Miss Holley soon after she left school began delivering anti-slavery lectures, and 20 years before the war of the rebellion she was prominently identified in the anti-slavery movement with William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, and Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Miss Holley was born in Lyons, NY 76 years ago. She spent her early life in Rochester, and attended school in Oberlin, Ohio. She was graduated from Oberlin College in 1839. After leaving college, one of her associates was Miss Caroline Putnam another advocate of freedom for the negroes. They traveled together and made addresses in various parts of the country. Miss Holley continued in the work until the Civil War broke out.

After the war, Miss Holley went to West Virginia and taught a school for colored children in Lottsburg, Northumberland County. The schoolhouse was burned by indignant white citizens of the town. Miss Holley purchased a small tract of land, built another house, and continued to educate the poor colored children there until a few weeks ago.

A few days before Christmas Miss Holley came North. It was her custom to visit friends in this city once a year. On her last visit here it was noticed that her health was failing, and her friends warned her to take plenty of rest. She paid no attention, however, to their entreaties, but started Dante classes for Prof. Davidson of this city. After attending a lecture by Felix Adler she was taken ill, and last Sunday it was discovered that she was suffering from pneumonia. She sank rapidly and died last night, surrounded by only a few friends.

Mrs. É. P. Miller, an old friend of Miss Holley, was at her bedside during her last moments. "She was one of the most indefatigable workers I ever met." Mrs. Miller said. "I met Miss Holley in Athol, Mass., in 1853, where she was delivering a series of lectures, and I know that she devoted her whole life to the interest of the colored people. She let nothing undone to alleviate the sufferings and attend to the wants of poor colored children, and I might say that she sacrificed her life in the completion of the task she set out to perform. I have colored children in my employ who were educated by Miss Holley, and they are a credit to her."

Dr. Frank Fuller, a friend of the dead woman, will have charge of the funeral arrangements. The body will be buried in the family vault at Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester, NY. The remains of Miss Holley's father rest there, and the grave is marked by a handsome obelisk with a medallion portrait erected by one-cent contributions from members of the Liberty party.

Date: 13 Jan 1893

Place: New York, New York, New York

Description: The New York Times

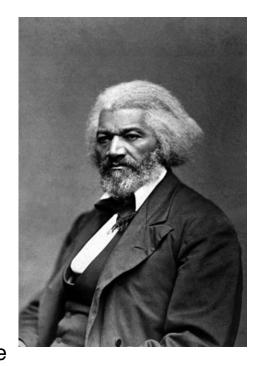


Epilogue

It was in Buffalo that Miss Holley enjoyed another experience of first rate importance. The story was told by Frederick Douglass, on the day of her burial in Rochester, at a Memorial Meeting of a Woman's Suffrage Convention meeting in Washington. Invited to speak by the president, Susan B. Anthony, Mr. Douglass said:

"An Anti-Slavery Convention was appointed to be held in Buffalo, New York, where Miss Holley then resided. [Was visiting her sister.] It was in the year 1843. The abolition question was then so unpopular that no church or public hall could be obtained in which to hold the meetings; so we went into an old deserted warehouse, without door or windows, and began with an audience of six or seven men who stood about the open front of the building".

"I continued for six days to speak in this place to an audience (which at last crowded the house) of the common people, who came



in their common clothes. "On the third day of our motley meeting, made up entirely of men, I observed with some amazement, as well as pleasure, a stately young lady, elegantly dressed, come into the room, leading a beautiful little girl. The crowd was one that would naturally repel a refined and elegant young lady, but there was no shrinking on her part. The crowd did the shrinking. It drew in its sides and opened the way, as if fearful of soiling the elegant dress with the dirt of toil. This lady came daily to my meetings in that old deserted building, morning and afternoon, till they ended. The dark and rough background rendered her appearance like a messenger from heaven sent to cheer me in what then seemed to most men a case of utter despair. The lady was Miss Sallie Holley, and this story illustrates her noble, independent, and humane character. She was never ashamed of her cause nor her company".

John Hazeltine -AN UNDISTINGUISHED CITIZEN.

In the year 1638 the Rev. Ezekiel Rogers left his parish of Rowley, in Yorkshire, England, and, accompanied by some twenty families of his parishioners, took passage for the new world in the good ship "John" of London. It is a fact worthy of mention that in the same vessel with them came also the first printing-press brought to America. History describes this little company of emigrants from Rowley as "men of good estate." They paid the Massachusetts Colony liberally for their grant, and soon planted homes for themselves, calling their town Rowley in affectionate remembrance.

Two brothers, Robert and John Hazeltine, were of their number, declared free men in 1640. John was a youth of not more than nineteen years of age when he left England. In 1675, while they were still men in the prime of life, they, in connection with William Wilde, founded the town earliest known as Merrimack. Later they changed the name to Bradford. John Hazeltine, the younger of the two brothers, first of their name in New England, was the great-grandfather of John Hazeltine, the subject of this brief sketch. The eldest son of John and Abigail (Ross) Hazeltine, was born in Bradford, Mass., in 1702. His father died when he was but thirteen years of age, leaving a small estate, sufficient for the humble needs of his wife and four children in the simple New England village. John grewn up with family and friends on the banks of the Merrimack.

In 1726 he and his older friend, Ebenezer Wood left to settle in the eastern part of the town of Sutton, southwest of Boston. Shortly after arriving he married Ebenezer's daughter, Jane, described as a "women of unusual force of character and a fine teammate for a pioneer spirit." Their new-constructed houses, originally in the wilderness, were joined by others and a small community developed.

John became active in buying and selling land. In time he would acquire more than a thousand acres, land that could be sold to generate funding for his ventures. Along with his importance in establishing the town of Sutton, John was chosen to petition to incorporate the Town of Upton. The new town's land would be drawn from the existing towns of Mendon, Uxbridge, Sutton and Hopkins. As the town of Upton developed, with the church located in the center of town and John's tavern conveniently located just down the street, John's importance as Town Moderator became significant to his own personal interests.

John and Jane had eleven chidren, the earlier ones listed as born in Sutton and the later ones as being born in Uptown. So far as known, they were all born in the same house.

John apparently enjoyed the experience of setting up a new town and 18 years later found an opportunity to do it again. In 1753, he on behalf of the required sixty committed settlers, he petitioned Governor Benning Wentworth of the New Hampshire Colony to establish the Town of Townshend northwest of Brattleboro, in what now is Vermont. The Townshend petition was granted, the ninth to be issued for land west of the Connecticut River.

Even though his Grant Petition had listed the sixty settlers, early land documents indicate that John and his relatives owned nearly one-forth of the town. Local legends provide an explanation. John had listed many of his Upton neighbors on the petition, appearently without informing them. Later, back in Upton, he met with them individually and offered to buy a drink in exchange for any land rights they might have in the wilderness of Vermont. Most were happy to sign a quitclaim deed and received the promised toddy. Whether or not true, the land records show that John acquired 16 rights for one shilling each, about the price of one toddy. Settlement of the new town was delayed by a flare up of the French and Indian War. Grant's became a no-man's land and all settlements where put on hold. Rising to the cause in early 1753, John went on active duty in the Massachusetts militia. Entering as a Major and quickly promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. John along with one thousand New Englanders, served with Col. Ephriam Williams in an effort to seize the fort at Crown Point. The French took the offensive, but were driven back to the Norh. The British built Fort William Henry on the south end of Lake George and the retreating French stopped and built Fort Carillon, later to be know as Fort Ticonderoga. With that, the boundaries were set for the winter of 1755-56.

John left active duty in the spring of 1756, returning to Upton and his various enterprises. Townshend would not be settled for another five years, after the war ended with the 1759 British victory at Quebec. Back home in Upton, in addition to his land transactions, businesses and tavern keeping, John developed another major interest - the production of iron.

John became an active partner in a Sutton iron works and was listed as Owner-Occupier in a British 1758 listing of Massachusetts iron activity. The British tried to regulate the Colonial iron works, decreeing that all pig and bar iron producded in the Colonies was to be exported to England. The Colonists generally ignored this restriction. But the eastern Massachusetts operations were directly under British eyes, especially susceptible to the occasional enforcement.

By 1761, John had heard of the high quality iron ore being found along the eastern side of the Taconic range, notably in the town of Salisbury, CT. Salisbury was an ideal site for an iron works, with high grade ore, sufficient water power and plenty of trees for the required charcoal. Also, it was far from British law enforcers. John's oldest son, Paul who new the iron operations was sent to Salisbury to investigate. Paul quickly became satisfied of the iron production potential at Salisbury. He moved there and his father visited there several times in 1762. One or both of them met Ethan Allen and he welcomed the opportunity to partner with them to build a furnace. Ethan contacted Samuel and Elisha Forbes and the four of them agreed to partner, acquiring the land and resources to build the furnace. The four men entered into a partnership agreement on January 16, 1762. Although the furnace was successful, the partners had other interests and within a few years sold off their property rights. by 1766 all the partners had moved on, with John Hazeltine and Ethan both going to Vermont. The furnace would be the only one operating in the tri-state region at the time of the Revolutionary War and would continue operation until 1832.

John Hazeltine was seventy-three at the time the war started but still ready to participate. He called and presided at a fourth Westiminster Convention where resolutions were passed supporting the Continental cause. Samuel Fletcher, John's son-in-law was in service with General Washington at Roxbury and participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is recorded that in 1777, John was lending money to provide bounties for Townshend men entering the military.

John Hazeltine died in the fall of that year, although the actual date and his burial place remain unknown and no portrait of him exists. Records from his old home in Upton indicated that he had no money, while Townshend reports suggested he owned a substantial part of the town. The wily old manipulator left them confused through the very end.

The Tohill Family of Macon County Illinois

Lawrence Tohill, was born March 18, 1793, in County Derry, Ireland. He came from Ireland to Pennsylvania. He was married September 16, 1815, to Sarah Baliey, who was born in 1786. Her father was a stone-cutter, who came from Philadelphia. Upon leaving Pennsylvania, Mr. and Mrs. Tohill settled in Ohio and remained there until 1838, They emigrated Westward to Crawford County, Ill., where Lawrence died on the 10th of January, 1868. Sarah, his wife died on February 30, 1852. They were the parents of six children: John, Daniel, who died in childhood and was buried in Ohio; Mary Ann, widow of John Wesley; Noah and George, both of whom died and were buried in Crawford County, Ill.; and Sallie, died in childhood and is buried in Ohio.

At their first settlement in the Crawford, County, there were no roads and all the houses were built of logs and greased paper took the place of glass for windows. There were no churches or school houses. As soon as there were enough people to subscribe for it, a log cabin was built and a subscription school was started. When the boys of the neighborhood were old enough to work they attended school only in the winter and worked on the farm in summer. Lawrence was a teacher and furniture maker.

John Tohill was the oldest child of Lawrence Tohill and Sarah Bailey. He was born in 1816 in Pennsylvania. When he was 7 years old, his family moved to the vicinity of Lancaster, Ohio and continued farming. In Ohio, John met and married Martha Springer who was born in Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio on April 22, 1819. Because of their religious differences, her parents strongly objected to the marriage. They were married in 1838 and left soon after their marriage with John's parents for Crawford County, Illinois. They rode a boat down the Ohio River and then went by wagon that was pulled by a cow and a horse. They purchased 160 acres near Flat Rock, Illinois and had 12 of their 13 childern while living there.



John and Sarah about 1890

In 1857, John gave land for a school to be built on the corner of his farm (per land deed of August 15, 1857 Crawford County Courthouse). In 1862, John sold his farm and moved with his family to a 160 acre farm in Macon County west of Lake City, Illinois. His children all attended school when they reached the right age, but continued to work on the farm in the summer. When he bought his farm he also purchased 40 acres of timberland about 5 miles from the homestead. The first winter, John built a log cabin on the timber tract and the family lived there until Spring, when he took down the log house and rebuilt it on the prairie farm. The log cabin was typical of the day with a fireplace in one end for heat and cooking. There was also a loft which served as the boy's room and was reached by climbing pegs in the wall. Some years after, John built a frame house with two rooms downstairs and two above. It also had a side addition for the kitchen and dining room. John's building ability is remarkable considering he was so short that he had to wear boys shoes as mens shoes did not come small enough for him.

In 1866, the youngest child was born. Her mother, Martha referred to

Clara Belle as the "prairie chicken". Martha was an energetic women, raising hundreds of leghorn chickens, geese for feather beds and pillows, vegetables and fruits. She put food away for the winter; potatoes, krout in wooden kegs, apple butter cooked outside and stored in stone jars. She made the family's soap out of animal lard and lye she drained from the wood ash hoppers. She made home remedies out of her seeds, catnip for babies, horehound for candy & for colds, burdock root for blood, sassafras for a spring tonic tea and sage for seasoning meet. She was happy to serve as "doctor" to families in the surrounding area and brought many babies



into the world. She also had the only spinning wheel and weaving shuttle large enough to weave bedspreads and rugs. Martha spun and dyed all her wool for weaving. Martha was seldom sick and remained active until stricken with pneumonia and she died on June 9, 1910 at the age of 91. John was 87 when he died in 1903. They are buried together in Mount Zion Cemetery, Macon County, Illinois.

Noah Webster Tohill was the 2nd born son of John and Martha Tohill. He was educated in the primitive school, with its puncheon floor, (Puncheons are logs that are flattened on one side only) huge fireplace, clapboard door, mud and stick chimney, and greased-paper windows, but he afterward attended the academy in Mt. Zion for fourteen months and the High School in Crawford, thus becoming well informed, and subsequently engaged in teaching. At the age of twenty-one, in 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-first Illinois Infantry, under Col. Good for three months. In 1862, he reenlisted as a member of Company E, Ninety-eighth Illinois Infantry, under Col. Funckhouser, and went to Louisville, KT where the company was engaged in building breastworks. He participated in many important battles, including the engagements at Crab Apple Orchard, KT, Murfreesboro, TN, Hoover's Gap, TN, Dalton, GA, Chickamauga, TN/GA, Lookout Mountain, TN, Mission Ridge, TN, Resaca, GA, Ringgold, GA, Knoxville, TN, Atlanta and Jonesboro, GA. During much of the time the troops were mounted, and probably no regiment saw more active service. Noah was mustered out June 27, 1865, after three years spent on Southern soil, and returned home with all of his equipments of war, including his sabre and Spencer rifle. Co. E. 98th IL. Vol. was a part of "Wilders Brigade". It was known as the "Lightning Brigade", the Brigade was composed of the 92nd IL, 123rd IL, 98th IL, 17th Ind., 72nd Ind. and the 18th Ind. A Monument for "Wilders Brigade" is the largest and finest monument on the Chickamauga, Battlefields.



Monument to Wilder and his Lightning Brigade at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park



Noah bought eighty acres of land from his father, and in the spring of 1872 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres. It was then wild prairie, but by tiling and thorough cultivation he made it one of the best farms of the neighborhood, its well-tilled fields yielding him a good income. In the spring of 1878 on April 14th, he was united in marriage with Rebecca (Dolly) Jane Burrous, daughter of Ben Burrous, of Mt. Zion Township, where the lady was born April 12, 1861. The wedding was held at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. B. A. Burrows. The groom, Noah is described as: a good citizen, an excellent farmer, a devoted member of the church, and has the reputation of being one of the best school teachers in the eastern part of Macon county. The bride, Rebecca is just seventeen years of age, and being intelligent and handsome, she presented an attractive and fascinating appearance on the wedding day. Their union has been blessed with the following children: Romulus Remus, Garfield, Noah, Randall, John Bennett (who was killed by a colt July 7, 1891), William Floyd, John Thomas and Gracie Elizabeth. Mr. Tohill was a member of, and Chaplain in, the Grand Army post of La Place. He was elected Assessor in the spring of 1879, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. He discharged his public service with the same fidelity which he manifested during the late war.

Pictured below: Noah & Rebecca (Dolly) Tohil Family @1900, Special thanks to Laurie Burrous for sending this photo.



Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of THE WORCESTER SOCIETY OF ANTIQUITY

The President—There is one special feature in connection with this gathering to-night which I can not allow to escape without notice. At our banquet in 1885, when we celebrated the tenth anniversary, women had not been admitted to membership. At that time there was a sign over the door for admission: "No Women Need Apply." But we have grown in wisdom, the sign has been taken down, and today we have the satisfaction of knowing that women are most able and willing helpers in the work of this Society, and it seems highly proper that they should on this occasion take a prominent part in this the first of the banquets we have enjoyed with their presence as members; and I have the pleasure of presenting to you Miss Georgia A. Bacon, President of the Woman's Club, whom we are glad to call a member of this Society.

MISS GEORGIA A. BACON.

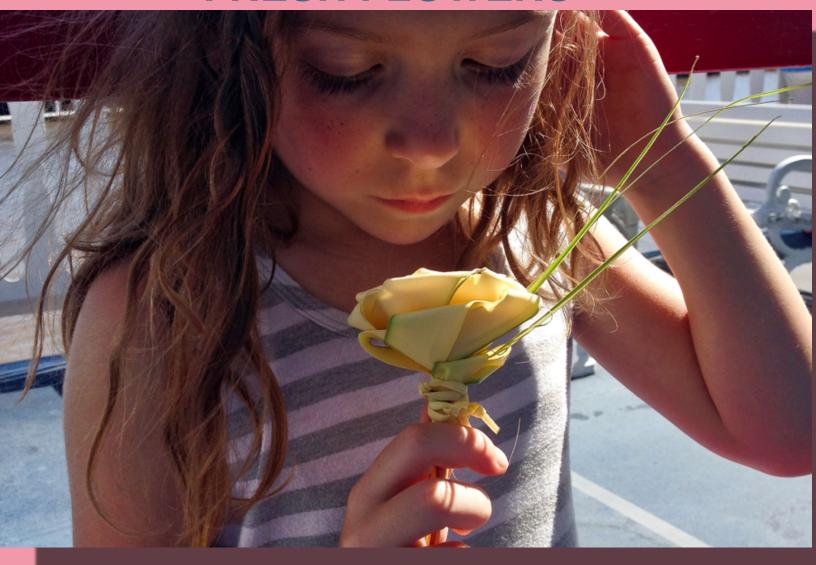
Mr. President, Members of the Society, and Guests: When our President asked me to say a few words this evening, I felt I must positively decline, as I am no speechmaker, but after thinking the matter over, as we do not want the men to think that they can do it all, I decided to avail myself of woman's privilege and call your attention to what the women have done, therefore I will say a very few words about women's clubs.





By subitution of the number after issue, you can view all the issues. The catalog currently has 1 through 19, except issue 7, but that is a story for another day!

FRESH FLOWERS



The last century has produced an abundance of ideologies that pretend to be keys to history but are actually nothing but desperate efforts to escape responsibility.

Johanna "Hannah" Cohn Arendt

